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## **Apostle Islands** News Release

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## Oak Island Dock Area Re-opens

Effective August 4, 2014, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore has re-opened the dock area of Oak Island. On July 23, 2014, group site B and campsites 2 and 3 on Oak Island were closed due to bear activity. The dock was also closed to overnight use and most day-use.

Park staff have conducted patrols and monitored bear activity. The NPS Oak Island volunteers have greatly assisted with general observations. Fortunately, it appears that natural foods have become more abundant and bears are resuming their normal behaviors.

However, it is critical that visitors to Oak Island (and other areas in the Park) are vigilant in making sure that no food or items that have odors are left unattended. In addition to food, this includes water bottles, deodorant, toothpaste and clothing with food odors. Bear lockers are available for use at all campsites to help keep bears and food separated.

"We hope that no more closures will be necessary, however, it is really up to visitors. Keeping food away from bears is key", said Apostle Islands National Lakeshore acting superintendent Myra Foster.

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